


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (Previously presented) A method of enabling a computer system to recognize specific actions of a user, said method comprising:

capturing a first image of a user within a first predetermined target area in a video stream;

displaying said user image including said first predetermined target area;

determining that a state of said first predetermined target area is to be associated with a

 first computer event;

associating said first computer event with said state of said first predetermined target area in response to said determination; and

storing information in a memory device regarding said association.

Claim 2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

capturing a second image of said user within said first predetermined target area; and

displaying said second image, wherein a ~~said~~ first indication indicates that a change of state between said first and second images in said first predetermined target area is to be associated with said computer event, and wherein said associating comprises associating said change of state with said first computer event.

Claim 3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said change of state comprises a change of color in said first predetermined target area.

Claim 4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said associating comprises storing a summary of said colors in said first predetermined target area.

Claim 5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2 ~~1~~, wherein said change of state is pattern of activity within said video stream which indicates a change of position of said image of said user within said first predetermined target area.

Claim 6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said first image includes an image of an object in said first predetermined target area.

Claim 7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said first computer event comprises a specific computer function to execute.

Claim 8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said first predetermined target area is one of a rectangular area, a circular area and a square area.

Claim 9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said first computer event comprises a plurality of computer events.

Claim 11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising positioning said predetermined target area within said video stream.

Claim 12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein positioning said predetermined target area comprises locating said predetermined target area within said video stream using one of a user input command and a program command.

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Claim 13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said first image further comprises a second predetermined target area, the method further comprising:

determining that a state of said second predetermined target area is to be associated with a second computer event; and

associating said second computer event with a state of said second predetermined target area, wherein said storing of information further comprises storing information in said memory device regarding said association of said second computer event with a state of said second predetermined target area.

Claim 14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said first computer event is a mouse click action.

Claim 16. (Previously presented) A method of using a computer system having an image capture system that displays an image of a user on a display screen, said method comprising:

enabling said computer system to associate a state of a first predetermined target area within a video stream with a first computer event;

capturing said state of said first predetermined target area with said image capture system;

and

performing said first computer event in response to said state of said first predetermined target area being captured by said image capture system.

Claim 17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein said enabling comprises:

capturing said first image;

displaying said first image;

determining that a state of said first predetermined target area is to be associated with a first computer event;

associating said first computer event with said state of said first predetermined target area in response to a ~~said~~ first indication; and

storing information in a memory device regarding said association of said first computer event with said state of said first predetermined target area.

Claim 18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising positioning said first predetermined target area within said video stream.

Claim 19. (Currently amended) The method of claim 17, further comprising:

producing a second predetermined target area within said video stream;

capturing a second image including said second predetermined target area which includes a user image;

determining that a state of said second predetermined target area is to be associated with a second computer event; and

associating said second computer event with said state of said second predetermined target area in response to a ~~said~~ second indication; and

storing information in said memory device such that said state of said second predetermined target area is associated with said second computer event.

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Claim 20. (Currently amended) A system that associates a specific user action with a first computer command, said system comprising:

an image capture system that captures a first image of a user within a video stream including a first predetermined target area, wherein the state of the first predetermined target area indicates said specific user action;

an image display system that displays said first image captured by said image capture system on a display screen; and

a computer system that recognizes a state of said first predetermined target area as corresponding to an association of ~~and associates~~ said state of said first predetermined target area ~~with~~ to said first computer command.

Claim 21. (Currently amended) The system of claim 20, wherein said computer system is adapted to perform a training phase to train the computer system to recognize said specific user action, said training phase comprising:

displaying said first image that is captured by said image capture system including said user image which includes said first predetermined target area;

associating said first computer command with said state of said first predetermined target area; and

storing information in a memory device regarding said association of said first computer command with said state of said first predetermined target area.

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Claim 22. (Previously presented) The system of claim 21, wherein said training phase further comprises:

capturing a second image including a second predetermined target area;

associating a second computer command with a state of said second predetermined target area; and

storing information in said memory device regarding said association of said state of said second predetermined target area with said second computer command.

Claim 23. (Previously presented) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for training a system to recognize specific user actions, said method comprising:

capturing a first image of a user within a first predetermined target area;

displaying said first image including said user image in said first predetermined target area;

determining that a state of said first predetermined target area is to be associated with a first computer event;

associating said first computer event with said state of said first predetermined target area in response to said determination; and

storing information in a memory device regarding said association.

Claim 24. (Previously presented) A method of enabling a computer system to recognize specific actions of a user, said method comprising:

associating a first computer event with a state of a first predetermined target area; and
storing information in a memory device regarding said association.

Claim 25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, further comprising capturing an image of said user.
